

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing an optical recording medium, comprising:

a molding step of molding a disc-like shaped substrate including an information recording face at least on one side;

a light transmitting layer formation step of forming a light transmitting layer thinner than the substrate on the information recording face;

a cutting step of forming a circular cut in the light transmitting layer; and

a punching step of punching out at least a part of an area inside the circular cut by a punching tool to divide the light transmitting layer at the circular cut and form both center holes in the light transmitting layer and the substrate, wherein

the circular cut in the light transmitting layer is formed at a larger diameter than an inner diameter of the center hole in the substrate,

the area inside the circular cut is pressurized in a thickness direction by the punching tool to divide the light transmitting layer at the circular cut and to punch the light transmitting layer and the substrate, thereby forming the center hole at a larger inner diameter than that of the center hole in the substrate in the light transmitting layer, and

the molding step, the light transmitting layer formation step, the cutting step and the punching step are conducted in this order.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to ~~claim 6~~, claim 5, wherein

a circular protrusion at a larger outer diameter than the inner diameter of the center hole in the substrate is formed on the information recording face at the molding step, the cut is formed in the light transmitting layer along an outer side of an outer circumference of the circular protrusion, and the substrate is punched by the punching tool to leave an outer periphery of the circular protrusion to form an annular protrusion around the center hole in the substrate as well as to form the center hole having a larger inner diameter than an outer diameter of the annular protrusion in the light transmitting layer.

8. (Original) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to claim 5, wherein

a resin having fluidity is supplied to the vicinity of a center of the substrate while the substrate is rotated to allow the resin to flow outward in a radial direction by centrifugal force for spread, thereby forming the light transmitting layer at the light transmitting layer formation step.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to claim 7, wherein

a resin having fluidity is supplied to the vicinity of a center of the substrate while the substrate is rotated to allow the resin to flow outward in a radial direction by centrifugal force for spread, thereby forming the light transmitting layer at the light transmitting layer formation step.

11. (Original) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to claim 8, wherein

the light transmitting layer is made of a radiation curable resin, a radiation ray is radiated so that the light transmitting layer is semi-cured at the light transmitting layer formation step, and a reirradiation step of radiating a radiation ray again to the semi-cured

light transmitting layer so as to completely cure the light transmitting layer is provided after the cutting step.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Original) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to claim 10, wherein

the light transmitting layer is made of a radiation curable resin, a radiation ray is radiated so that the light transmitting layer is semi-cured at the light transmitting layer formation step, and a reirradiation step of radiating a radiation ray again to the semi-cured light transmitting layer so as to completely cure the light transmitting layer is provided after the cutting step.

14. (Currently Amended) A manufacturing device of an optical recording medium, comprising:

~~cutting device~~ a cutting device for forming a circular cut in a light transmitting layer of a semifinished product of an optical recording medium, the optical recording medium including a disc-like shaped substrate having an information recording face at least on one side and the light transmitting layer thinner than the substrate on the information recording face; and

~~punching device~~ a punching device for punching out at least a part of an area inside the circular cut by a punching tool to divide the light transmitting layer at the circular cut and form both center holes in the light transmitting layer and the substrate after the circular cut is formed in the light transmitting layer by the cutting device, wherein

the cutting device forms the circular cut at a larger diameter than an inner diameter of the center hole in the substrate, and

the punching device pressurizes the area inside the circular cut in a thickness direction to divide the light transmitting layer at the circular cut and to punch the light

transmitting layer and the substrate, thereby forming the center hole at a larger inner diameter than that of the center hole in the substrate in the light transmitting layer.

15. (Canceled)

16. (New) A method for manufacturing an optical recording medium, comprising:
a molding step of molding a disc-like shaped substrate including an
information recording face at least on one side;

a light transmitting layer formation step of forming a light transmitting layer
thinner than the substrate on the information recording face;

a cutting step of forming a circular cut in the light transmitting layer; and

a punching step of punching out at least a part of an area inside the circular cut
by a punching tool to form center holes in the light transmitting layer and the substrate,
wherein

the circular cut in the light transmitting layer is formed at a larger diameter
than an inner diameter of the center hole in the substrate, and

the area inside the circular cut is pressurized in a thickness direction by the
punching tool to divide the light transmitting layer at the circular cut and to punch the light
transmitting layer and the substrate, thereby forming the center hole at a larger inner diameter
than that of the center hole in the substrate in the light transmitting layer.

17. (New) A manufacturing device of an optical recording medium, comprising:
a cutting device for forming a circular cut in a light transmitting layer of a
semifinished product of an optical recording medium, the optical recording medium including
a disc-like shaped substrate having an information recording face at least on one side and the
light transmitting layer thinner than the substrate on the information recording face; and

a punching device for punching out at least a part of an area inside the circular cut by a punching tool to form center holes in the light transmitting layer and the substrate, wherein

the cutting device forms the circular cut at a larger diameter than an inner diameter of the center hole in the substrate, and

the punching device pressurizes the area inside the circular cut in a thickness direction to divide the light transmitting layer at the circular cut and to punch the light transmitting layer and the substrate, thereby forming the center hole at a larger inner diameter than that of the center hole in the substrate in the light transmitting layer.